CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for use by a network security system, comprising: identifying vulnerability conditions of a network;

based on those vulnerabilities, monitoring the network for intrusions so that a user is only notified of intrusions to which the network is susceptible.

2. A method for use by a network Security system, comprising: identifying vulnerability conditions of a network;

based on those vulnerabilities, monitoring the network for intrusions based on Strong and Semi-strong Validity.

3. A network security system, including:

a vulnerability detection system that uses a first set of rules to identify vulnerability conditions on a network;

an intrusion detection system that uses a second set of rules to identify intrusion conditions on the network, wherein the second set of rules is based on the vulnerability conditions identified by the intrusion detection system.

4. A network security system, including:

a vulnerability detection system that identifies vulnerability conditions on a network;

a target-based intrusion detection system that monitors the network for intrusions that attack an identified vulnerability or that attack a vulnerability where presence is not identified but is likely given the presence of the identified vulnerability.

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